

Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates

*Opinion Research &
Public Policy Analysis*

TO: Interested parties

FROM: Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates

RE: California statewide survey results

DATE: February 23, 2006

METHODOLOGY

Between February 18 and 22, 2006, Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates (FMM&A) conducted telephone interviews with 800 randomly selected voters throughout California who are likely to vote in the November 2006 general election.¹ The margin of error for the survey as a whole is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. The margin of error for subgroups within the sample will be higher.

FINDINGS

The results show that voters clearly oppose building highways or toll roads through state park land, including San Onofre State Park.

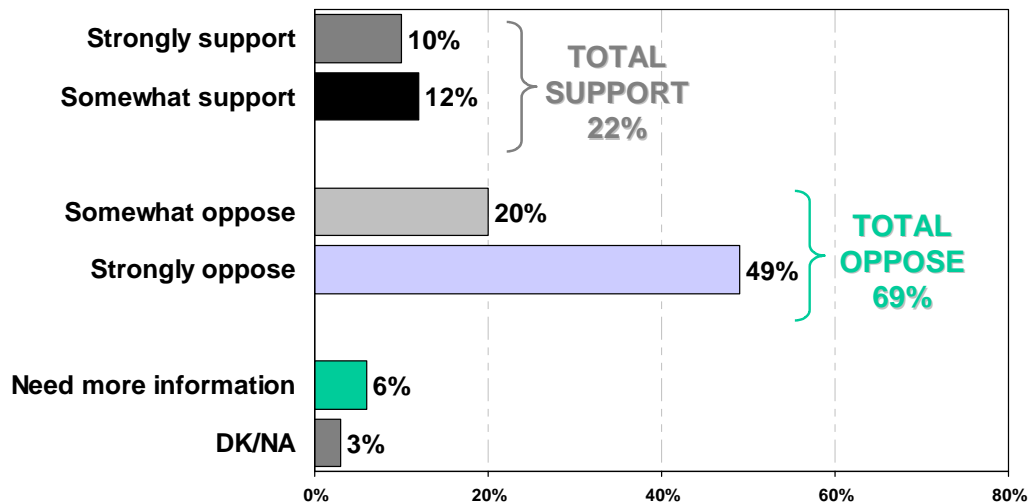
- Voters were read the following question: *Some people have suggested building toll roads through state park land to reduce traffic congestion in growing areas of the state. In general, does this sound like something you would support or oppose?* **In response, 69 percent said they oppose building toll roads through state park land, while just 22 percent support it. In fact, half of voters (49%) strongly oppose it.** Figure 1 on the following page illustrates the results.

¹ The survey was commissioned by the Sierra Club and The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC).

2425 Colorado Ave. Suite 180
Santa Monica, CA 90404
Phone: (310) 828-1183
Fax: (310) 453-6562

1999 Harrison Street Suite 1290
Oakland, CA 94612
Phone: (510) 451-9521
Fax: (510) 451-0384

FIGURE 1:
SUPPORT FOR BUILDING TOLL ROADS THROUGH STATE PARK LAND



- **Opposition is broad-based, including 76 percent of Democrats, 70 percent of independents, and 61 percent of Republicans.** Moreover, 45 percent of Republicans strongly oppose building toll roads through state parks. Figure 2 illustrates the results among different demographic groups.

FIGURE 2:
SUPPORT/OPPOSITION TO BUILDING TOLL ROADS THROUGH STATE PARK LAND
AMONG SUBGROUPS

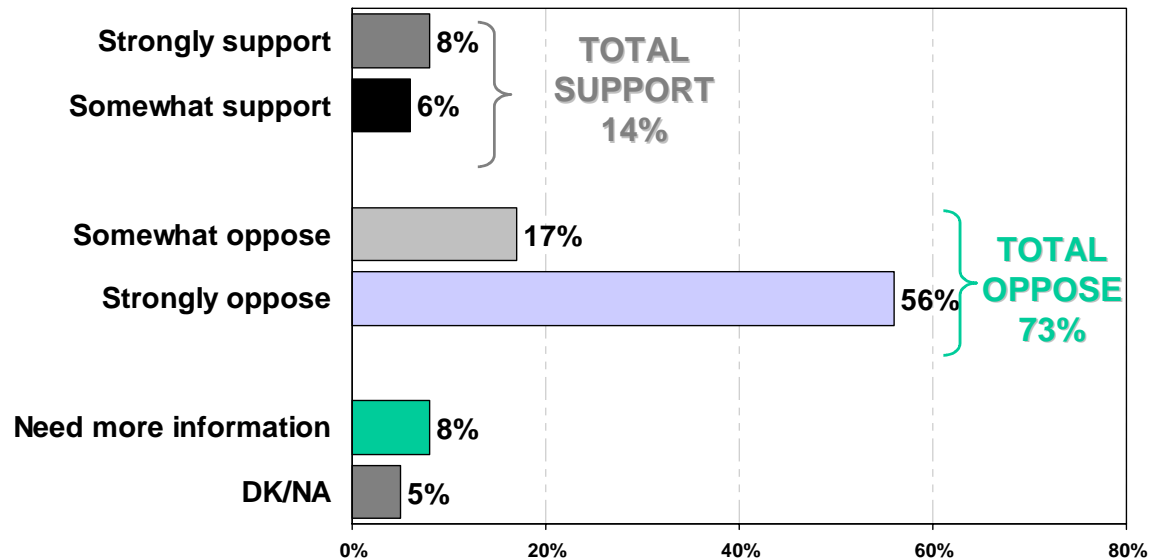
Subgroup	Support	Oppose	Need info/DK
Ideology			
Liberal	16%	78%	6%
Moderate	22%	68%	10%
Conservative	26%	65%	10%
Party			
Democrats	17%	76%	7%
Independents	17%	70%	13%
Republicans	29%	61%	9%
Education			
Non-college	25%	65%	10%
College graduates	18%	74%	8%

**FIGURE 2 CONTINUED:
SUPPORT/OPPOSITION TO BUILDING TOLL ROADS THROUGH STATE PARK LAND
AMONG SUBGROUPS**

Subgroup	Support	Oppose	Need info/DK
Age			
18 to 49	25%	68%	7%
50 or older	20%	70%	10%
65 or older	16%	72%	12%
Gender			
Men	22%	70%	8%
Women	21%	69%	10%
Income			
Less than \$50,000	15%	75%	10%
\$50-\$100,000	23%	69%	8%
\$100,000+	23%	71%	6%
Region			
Coastal areas	20%	71%	9%
Inland areas	25%	65%	9%
L.A. media market	23%	70%	7%
S.F. media market	17%	72%	11%
San Diego media market	18%	74%	8%
Sacramento media market	22%	67%	11%
Other media markets	26%	62%	12%

- **Opposition increases further when voters are asked to consider the toll road proposed through San Onofre State Park. Nearly three out of four voters (73%) statewide specifically oppose building a toll road through San Onofre State Park when they hear it will impact the park's natural areas, including the campground and hiking and biking trails. Fifty-six percent (56%) strongly oppose it. Just 14 percent support it (see Figure 3).**

FIGURE 3:
SUPPORT/OPPOSITION TO BUILDING A TOLL ROAD
THROUGH SAN ONOFRE STATE PARK



- **The survey results show that voters believe highway construction poses a threat to state parks.** More than eight in ten voters (82%) consider *pollution to state parks caused by runoff from nearby highways or highway construction* to be a “threat” to state parks. Eighty percent (80%) feel this way about *highway or road construction through state park land generally*.
- **The strong opposition to and concern about building toll roads through state parks is not surprising given the high regard in which voters hold state parks:**
 - Eighty-four percent (84%) consider state parks to be extremely or very important to California’s quality of life.
 - A nearly unanimous 95 percent agree with the statement: *whether or not I personally spend a lot of time at California’s state parks, it is important to me to know they are protected*. Sixty-six percent (66%) strongly agree with this statement.
 - Most voters are also familiar with California’s state parks. Seventy-one percent (71%) of voters are at least somewhat familiar with the parks or the park system. Just 12 percent are not familiar at all.
 - Furthermore, 66 percent said they go to or visit California state parks at least sometimes.